Robbery in Tirupati Express

3403. SHRI K.M. KHAN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether robbing and attacking of 12 passengers in the Tirupati Express was reported on 27.2.97;

(b) whether these incidents include robbing of Rs. 1.5 lakhs in cash and jewellery from passengers;

(c) whether such incidents of robbing and injuring passengers are increasing every day despite raising the strength of Railway Protection Force and Railway Protection Special Force;

(d) whether Government propose to provide atleast 4 armed personnel of RPF/RPSF in each passenger-coach of each train of the country running from one place to another; and

(e) if so, the details thereof; and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Traffic Police for VIP duty

3404. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Traffic Police Kept on Toes for VIP duty" appearing in the Times of India dated December, 1, 1996;

(b) if so, the facts thereof and the reaction of the Government thereto; and

(c) whether Government propose to utilise the services of CRPF or some other force for the VIP duty and let Delhi Traffic Police perform its normal duties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. It is within the assigned charter of duties for Traffic Police personnel to regulate traffic during VIP movements and their deployment for the purpose is unavoidable.

(c) The traffic duty is specialised in nature and cannot be handed over to the CRPF or any other Para-military force the members of which are not trained in this field.

Killing of Dalits in Bihar

3405. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SAMBHAJIRAO SHINDE:
SHRI O.P. KOHLI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether eleven dalits were shot dead on March 24, 1997, after they were taken by a landlord to his field for harvesting in a village about 40 kms. from Patna in Bihar;

(b) whether this mass killing came as a fall-out of the ongoing feud between supporters of two millitant groups; and

(c) whether similar caste wars have also been frequent in villages of Uttar Pradesh and some other States; if so, the number and details of such caste feuds and killings in the country during the last two years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR): (a) and (b) According to available information, 10 Musahars (SC) were shot dead on March 23, 1997, near village Kab (PS Rani Talab/district Patna), by Ranbir sena, which is an armed outfit of Bhumihar landlords. The victims did not belong to any militant group.

(c) Available information of state-wise caste related incidents is enclosed in the statement.